



Illinois Department of Transportation

2300 South Dirksen Parkway / Springfield, Illinois 62764

Mr. Steve Hamer
Program Mgr., Transportation Review
Illinois Department of Natural Resources
524 South Second Street
Springfield, Illinois 62701-1787

Subject: NEPA/404 Merger Process
Districts 2, 3, 4, & 6 and Bureau of Local Roads & Streets Projects

Dear Mr. Hamer:

Enclosed for your review and concurrence are copies of the minutes of the NEPA/404 meetings held April 29 and 30, 1996.

If there are any questions, please contact either Mr. Dennis Johnson of the Federal Highway Administration at (217) 492-4625 or Ms. Kathy Ames at (217) 785-0203.

Very truly yours,

Gary Gould, Engineer of
Design & Environment

By: Peter J. Frantz
Chief of Environment

CONCUR

By:
Division of Impact Analysis

IDOC
IDNR 6-10-96

Enclosures

cc: W. D. Ost	Attn: Larry Reed and Jason Nelson
J. McCree	Attn: G. Mounts
D. E. Risinger	Attn: A. Mills
J. Easterly	Attn: R. A. Smith
W. Sunley	Attn: Earl Schroeder
Dennis Johnson	



Louis Berger & Associates, Inc. of Illinois

819 S. Wabash Avenue, Suite 800, Chicago IL 60605-2188

TEL: 312.663.4141 • FAX: 312.341.5685

CONSULTING ENGINEERS • ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERS • PLANNERS

MINUTES OF MEETING

Date: April 29, 1996

Time: 1:00 p.m.

Place: 6th Floor Conference Room
Illinois Department of Transportation
District 4
Peoria, Illinois

Subject: NEPA/404 Process
US. Route 20
Galena to Freeport, Illinois
Jo Daviess and Stephenson Counties

Attendance: See Meeting Attendance List

The purpose of the meeting was to present the Purpose of and the Need for the U.S. Route 20 improvement between Galena and Freeport, Illinois. Louis Berger & Associates, Inc of Illinois on behalf of the Illinois Department of Transportation, District 2 presented information to the agencies involved in the NEPA/404 process. Berger stated that the objective of the meeting was to supply enough information for the agencies to concur in the Purpose of and the Need for the proposed improvements. The objectives of the Purpose and Need are to define why the project must be implemented; to establish logical termini of the proposal; to establish why the project has independent utility; and, to be as comprehensive, specific and concise as possible. Berger presented a brief history of the studies that have taken place in the past for this project. The project itself was identified as part of the supplemental freeway system presented in a report in 1965, and the current study is based on a feasibility report prepared by the Special Studies Unit of the Illinois Department of Transportation. The project was named in the ISTEA for funding due the unique character of the project area. The project was presented to all concerned agencies at a scoping meeting conducted on September 19, 1993.

Berger presented a detailed discussion of traffic growth and projected traffic in the project area indicating that the existing and projected design hourly volumes exceed the Department's criteria for warrants for a four lane highway. Berger identified safety concerns within the project area. The text of the Purpose and Need was referenced as support to discussions concerning accident history. It was noted that 70% of existing U.S. Route 20 has an accident experience that exceeds statewide averages. Berger also cited specific accidents that have occurred over the last few years that highlight the deficiencies along the route.

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It was stated that the existing U.S. Route 20 does not meet current design standards. Approximately 73% of the roadway does not meet current design standards for horizontal alignment and vertical alignment. It was further stated that less than 40% of the existing route allows the opportunity to pass. Forty percent is the Department criteria for passing opportunities on a two-lane highway.

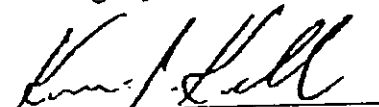
The third element of the Purpose of and Need for the improvement is to service the local community. Berger noted that the existing road network does not follow a grid pattern typically found within the other parts of the State of Illinois. Due to the topography in the area, existing roads follow the hollows and ridges within Jo Daviess County and the western portion of Stephenson County. Existing U.S. Route 20 becomes part of the local road system whereby farmers move their product to market, machinery is moved from farmsteads to the fields and is also part of the school bus system. This results in a mixture of local traffic with higher speed through traffic creating a potential conflict between the two.

As a fourth item, the purpose of the project is to provide system continuity. Berger stated that this 55 mile section of U.S. Route 20 is the final length to allow for a four lane highway from Chicago to Waterloo, Iowa and beyond. At Waterloo, Iowa the U.S. Route 20 intersects with the proposed Avenue of the Saints that will connect St. Louis, Missouri and Minneapolis/St. Paul, Minnesota.

After the presentation there was a question and answer period and discussions concerning elements of the project. The result of the meeting was that the FHWA generally concurred in the Purpose and Need of the project. The Army Corp of Engineers, U.S. Fish and Wild Life Service, and Illinois Department of Natural Resources deferred their opinion of the engineering need to the FHWA. All agencies were provided copies of the statement of the Purpose of and the Need for the project for review/comments. Comments from these agencies will be incorporated into a revised statement for distribution and concurrence.

The USEPA and the FHWA were invited to speak at a meeting of the Tourism Work Group. This was discussed at some length and it was suggested that they work through the District and the Advisory Committee. It was further suggested that the work groups submit questions for discussion prior to any meetings.

Meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.


Kevin J. Kell, P.E.

Sign-In Sheet
NEPA/404 MERGER MEETING
April 29, 1996

Name	Organization	Telephone No.	Fax No.
PETE FRANTZ	IDOT - ENV. SPFD	217 782 4770	217 ⁵²⁴ 782 9356
CINDY PARKER	IDOT - BDE - Spfld.	217 785-2833	217 524 9356
KATHY AMES	IDOT - BDE - Spfld.	217-785-0203	217-524-9356
Mike MacMullen	USEPA	312-886-7342	312-353-5374
Walter Waidehch	FHWA	217-492-4622	217-492-4620
Dennis Johnson	FHWA	217-492-4622	217-492-4620
Wayne Fischer	USFWS - Rock Island	309-793-5800	309-793-5804
JOHN BETKER	CORPS - Rock Island	(309) 794-5380	794-5191
Michael Bruns	IDOT - BDE - Spfld.	(217) 782-7077	(217) 524-9356
SERINI PARK	FHWA - IL DIV	(217) 492-4622	(217) 492-4620
David Kopacz	FHWA - IL Div.	217 492 4629	217 492 4620
CHARLES H. PERINO	IDOT - BDE - SPFLD	217 785-2130	
Steve HAMER	IDNR	217-785-5522	217-785-6040
MARTY JOYCE	HDR ENGINEERING	312-774-7700	312-774-7851
Lyle Schaub	IDOT - Dist 3 (Ottawa)	815-434-8495	
ANDREW SVIHRA	" "	815-434-8450	
GREGG MOUNTS	" "	815-434-8423	
TOM SANCKEN	" "	815-434-8469	
Jason T. Nelson	IDOT - Dist. 2 LRTS	815-224-5380	
RON HEINEN #12	Winnebago Co	815-965-9431	⁸¹⁵ 965-6906
GARY W. LAMLING	McCLURE ENGR	815-398-2332	398-2490
LARRY PICHE	IDOT CENTRAL Local R&S	(217) 782-0675	
LARRY E. REED	IDOT #2 - DIST. OFF	815-284-5307	815- 284-5309
JOHN WEGMEYER	IDOT #2 - Studies and Plans	815-284-5351	(815) 284-5309

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PETE FRANTZ	IDOT - Environment Spfld	217 782 4770	217 524 9356
CINDY PARKER	IDOT- BDE - Spfld.	217-785-2833	217-524-9356
KATHY AMES	IDOT- BDE- Spfld.	217-785-0203	217-524-9356
MIKE MAC MULLEN	USEPA - Chicago	312-886-7342	312-353-5374
DENNIS JOHNSON	FHWA	217-492-4622	217-492-4626
Walter Waidehch	FHWA	217-492-4622	217-492-4626
Keith Hoernschmeyer	FHWA	217-492-4620	217-492-4621
DAVID KASTENDICK	IDOT D-G STUDIES+PLANS	217 782-5503	217 524-7696
JOHN BETKER	CORPS - ROCK ISLAND	(309) 794-5380	794-5191
Charles H. Perino	IDOT-BDE - Spfld	(217) 785-2130	
Steve HAMER	IDNR	217-785-5500	785-6040
PAULA GREEN	IDOT - Dist 4	(309) 671-3478	(309) 671-3498
Annette Mills	IDOT - Dist 4	309 671-3490	309 671-3498
JOHN BOYLE	CH2M HILL (PEORIA)	309-671-3859	309-671-3816
LARRY MARTIN	CH2M Hill	312-693-3809	312-693-2396
JIM SAAG	CH2M HILL	312-693-3809	312-693-2396
GARY McCONKEY	IDOT- Dist 4	309-671-3455	309-671-3498
OMER OSMAN	IDOT Dist. 4	309-671-3478	309-671-3498
Wendy Lewis	IDOT - District 4	309 671 3478	309 671 3498
Barbara Stevens	IDOT - BDE/E	217,785,4245	217. 524.9356
Michael Bruns	IDOT - BDE/E	(217) 782-7077	217-524-9356
JEFF FRANTZ	IDOT - DIST 6	217/785-9721	217/524-7696
JOHN TAYLOR	IDOT - DIST 6	217-785-9046	"
MARK G. BURNS	IDOT - DIST 6	217-785-5332	217/524-7696

April 30, 1996

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